



Luv Lines are here! See who sent Valentines!

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What is your definition of sexy?

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*The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment*

## Fuller ousted as athletic director

*TSU set to search for its fourth athletic director in six years*

By Anthony J. Miller and Sean Livingston  
Sports Writer and Sports Editor

In the past six years, Tennessee State University has been no stranger to searching for athletic directors.

After Vivian Fuller was released from TSU on Friday, Jan. 29, the university found itself searching for its fourth athletic director since 1993.

Fuller accepted the position in mid-November 1997, making her one of fewer than two dozen women over the combined men's and women's athletic programs in the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and the first-ever Black female athletic director of a university with a football program.

During her short tenure of less than 15 months, Fuller apparently was not what TSU was looking for. "The institution plans to move in a different direction with athletics," said Thomas Martin, vice president for student affairs and the administrator responsible for the athletic program. "She was doing things a certain way and, well, that's all I have to say. We are going to stick by what we said earlier in the press release."

Although Fuller was unavailable for comment, she was rumored to have had some differences in opinion with certain pivotal university members.

It is speculated that Fuller might have been released due to problems concerning eligibility certification of athletes at TSU. Before the 1998 season-opener against Middle Tennessee State University, nine football players were declared academically ineligible. The football team still finished the regular season 9-2, making it the only athletic team to finish above .500 under Fuller.

Following the announcement of Fuller's dismissal, many university members, both faculty and student, expressed their surprise. "I was shocked," said head football coach L. C. Cole. "I just saw these officers come in and Chief Lawson (head of the TSU police department). And then, before you knew it, they changed the lock on her door."

Cole, who served on the committee responsible for selecting Fuller, said he had respect for Fuller's attitude in dealing with personal issues. "I have to hand it over to her for not letting on there was any kind of problem," Cole said. "We have our regular department meetings and she was always professional. Sometimes you can sense when there are tensions, but she kept that all from us."

On Monday, Feb. 1, TSU President James A. Hefner appointed women's basketball coach Teresa Lawrence Phillips as interim athletic director for the second time in less than two years. "I think this university has a great athletic history," Phillips said. "If they need me for a month or a year it doesn't make a difference."

Phillips took over the position on an interim basis



PHOTO BY JOHN CARROLL

Vivian Fuller

after Howard Gentry Jr. resigned as athletic director on June 28, 1997, due to health reasons. Many people around the community expressed on local talk radio and informal chats that Gentry should return as athletic director. "I have not been asked to come back into office," said

see 'Fuller' on page 3

## Students rate Hefner's performance as average

*The report card series is a new feature in The Meter. The report card is based on the opinions of students in the areas of leadership, interaction with students, representation of the campus and staying power. The data is collected through surveys.*

By Hillary S. Condon  
Community View Editor

When Dr. James A. Hefner ascended to the presidency of Tennessee State University in the spring of 1991, he vowed to make improvements, including the addition of roughly seven new buildings by 1994 and fostering an environment of effective communication, fairness and morality on campus.

He has partially lived up to those pledges by overseeing a multimillion-dol-



President Hefner shown here with SGA vice president Ashley Jefferson at Inauguration.

lar building campaign, including the Wilma Rudolph Residence Center in 1995 and the Heiman Street Complex last year.

But in a recent survey of 100 TSU students, Hefner warranted a 2.33 grade point average in overall performance and suffered his lowest score in what many students consider the most important area of his leadership—his involvement with the students.

"I have yet to see the man," said junior health care administration major Carmen Moore. "And I have been here for four years."

Freshman health care administration major Skarkall Brisco, who gave Hefner a "C" in this category, said, "He really doesn't want to be here. He doesn't have our (the students') interests at heart."

Junior computer science major and Student Government Association Speaker of the House Eric James said, "The only time Dr. Hefner is seen is when there is some special function. It would be nice to see him outside of the business."

Hefner said he interacts regularly with students by lecturing in residence halls and having meals with students in the main cafeteria. In fact, he said, he eats with students more frequently than he eats

with faculty members.

"I try to eat with students once a week. . . It's impossible for all of them to know me," he said. "I like students, that's why I interact with them. I try to interact with students as much as possible."

Others concur about the president's interactions with students.

Freshman physical therapy major Syreeta Blakely, who gave Hefner a "B" in this category, said, "I see him quite frequently. He always speaks when in your presence."

The survey covered two other categories of Hefner's leadership: general improvements made to TSU during his tenure, where he scored a "C," and his representation of the school, where he scored a "C+."

Hefner recently was in the news as the recipient of the Ida B. Wells Award for support of free speech and "outstanding and consistent support of journalism,"

see "Hefner" on page 2



## News

# Cameras, scanners added for additional student security

By Brandie Nicole Montgomery  
News Writer

The addition of video cameras on campus and an identification scan station in the computer lab for security reasons created a new look for Tennessee State University's mailroom and technology center this semester.

The cameras were installed to make students feel safe at night while checking their mail in the campus center and to catch mail theft, stolen merchandise and funds.

"Cameras keep people honest, and they're also there for safety and security reasons," said Col. Author Laird, director of the campus center. "At nighttime, we don't have enough police to cover all areas at all times. Having cameras in problem areas will help a lot. We hope to get cameras all over the campus center as well."

In the TSU mailroom, visible and hidden cameras are already in use. Georgianna Priddy, mailroom manger,

said the system is already in progress and is soon to be fully completed.

"The cameras are already active; we have them in the front, as well as the back," Priddy said. "We'll be complete as soon as we receive a monitor, which will be placed at the front desk."

Some mail delay and theft problems can be solved with the help of the students. "People come in and leave their locks unlocked...The only thing a thief has to do is turn it, and it'll pop right open," said junior mailroom work study student, Demetrius Millen.

"Whenever you get mail out of the box remember to turn the lock at least twice to make sure it's locked"

Many students believe the mail delay and theft problems are internal. TSU Student Government Association executive assistant Kalid Williams said, "Last year my sister sent me a card for my birthday enclosed with money, and it was never received."

Sometimes when students don't receive expected mail it's usually because the letter was addressed wrong. "If somebody sends a letter with a nickname, or the

wrong post office box number, and we can't match it, the letter goes back to the sender," Millen said.

The identification scan station was added to the computer lab to prevent non-TSU students from using the computer lab. "This way we can't have people coming in off the streets causing problems and using the computers meant for students," Pascha Bond, a junior computer lab assistant, said.

Security measures in the bookstore also have been improved. Steve Treece, store manager of the campus bookstore, said, "We'll be receiving our cameras in a few days, they'll also be hidden and visible. We also get the students' social security numbers with transactions, which



PHOTO BY JOHN CARROLL

Cameras like the ones shown overhead in the post office

would help us run reports if something were to happen."

Sophomore Sommer Harris also has noticed the improvement in the bookstore. "I'm glad they moved the cubby holes in the bookstore....With the cubby holes being by the door, people's things could easily get stolen." •

## TSU Students Use Your Career Center!!!

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- ♦ Career Employment - On Campus Interviews & Referrals (Seniors - Alumni)
- ♦ Student Employment - On Campus / Work Study Placement
- ♦ Student Employment (JLD) - Part-time, Summer Internship (Freshmen - Seniors)

Tennessee State University

### Career Center

Division of Student Affairs

Floyd Payne Campus Center - Suite 304

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## Spring Semester Activities

DATE(S)	ACTIVITY	TIME
January - March	Work Study Placement (Sign-up Required)	Weekly
	Career Workshops (Required for On-Campus Interviews)	T/ W/ TR
January 26 - April 15	On-Campus Recruitment	9:00 am-4:30 p.m.
February 23, 24, 25	Teacher Recruitment Week	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
March 23	Nashville College to Career Fair The I-24 Expo Center Pre-register with the Career Center	12 noon - 6:00 pm

### Teacher Recruitment Week

(February 23, 24, 25)

### Student Motivation Task Force

(April 5, 6, 7)

## Hefner scores best in image category

from page 1

despite the fact that TSU's journalism program still is not accredited.

Also, throughout his 7-page resume, he mentions many schools he has worked for, his dozens of articles and three books published, and many honors and awards, both professional and scholastic.

As president of Jackson State University from 1984 to April of 1991, Hefner most notably, worked with the Ford Foundation to "improve the blighted area around the campus." But the North Nashville neighborhood that surrounds TSU hasn't enjoyed similar attention.

However, Hefner has enormous pride in the improvements made to TSU during his tenure. He characterizes the changes made to buildings like Wilson, Lawson, Holland and Harned halls as a "complete metamorphosis," and believes that he has lived up to his promises of a safe, pedestrian-friendly campus.

TSU's recent betterment, which has earned it several consecutive listings in *U.S. News & World Report*, scored Hefner his second highest grade point average, a 2.73, or a high "C."

"Overall, president Hefner has done a tremendous job of making our campus look beautiful as far as the new building additions and the scenic landscape. One thing I wish he would improve on is the food in the cafeteria and renovations of

Eppse and Wilson halls."

Many believe Hefner's speaking skills represent TSU best. "TSU is always represented well when he is speaking," said senior computer science major Kendrick Vaughns. "Hefner tries to represent TSU to its fullest when he is speaking at various functions around the country."

In keeping with the expectations some had of him, Hefner scored best in how well he has upheld TSU's image. Here he earned a 2.8 grade point average. That wouldn't be high enough for him to retain one of his own scholarships if he were a student, but it is above average.

"He hasn't embarrassed the school in any way that would make faculty and students want another president," said sophomore mass communications major Lori Rucker. "But on the other hand, the rules of campus security...should have been enforced a long time ago. It should not have taken a death and a university embarrassment to actually talk to students."

"Security has improved everywhere except in Hankal (Hall), where I stay," said sophomore psychology major Christy Polk, who gave Hefner a "B" in this category.

According to a report from the Tennessee Board of Regents, the renovation of TSU's campus during Hefner's tenure has warranted TSU the title of Most Improved Campus in Tennessee. •



## News

# TSU theater program brings August Wilson's *Two Trains Running* to life

By Remy Reveyoso  
News Writer

Tonight is the final chance to see Tennessee State University's theater program perform August Wilson's *Two Trains Running* at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. The play began on Monday, Feb. 8.

The drama gives lessons about life and death, how people deal with situations when they are confronted with them and the things people do, to and for themselves, in order to be happy.

"August Wilson is an important playwright in America. All of his plays were performed on Broadway," Barry Scott, the director of the play, said. "This man stands head and shoulders or above other playwrights in America."

The play takes place in a Pittsburgh diner in the spring of 1969 over a course of several

days. The main characters and the employees of the diner include *Memphis*, played by Devin Haqq; *Risa*, played by Keri Day and *Sterling*, played by Brandon Hayes.

Memphis, who is the owner of the diner, had land taken from him by racist white men in Mississippi and spends most his time thinking of how he can maintain his property.

His waitress, *Risa*, is more concerned with men and sex appeal. She wants men to see her from the inside of her soul. Thus, she scars her legs with a razor blade to alter her appearance. Another worker, *Sterling*, has just been released from jail and is trying to find his true identity, but begins to fall in love with *Risa*.

Other characters include *Wolf*, played by Christopher A. Jones, a man who runs numbers for

a white Mafia and West, played by Nicholas Oldham, is the undertaker.

He lost his wife whom he misses dreadfully, and questions the existence of heaven, contemplating if heaven is where his wife is, and if that is where he will be once he passes.

Hambone, played by Montez Ross and Holloway, played by William Taylor, are the other

frequent customers of the diner. Hambone sits at his table and chants about the ham he was promised years ago. Holloway, a Black man conscious of his race, complains about the oppression whites have instilled on Blacks. He refers everyone to Aunt Ester, a 349-year-old woman, who will "wash your soul." Aunt Ester is one of many characters mentioned in the play, but are not seen.

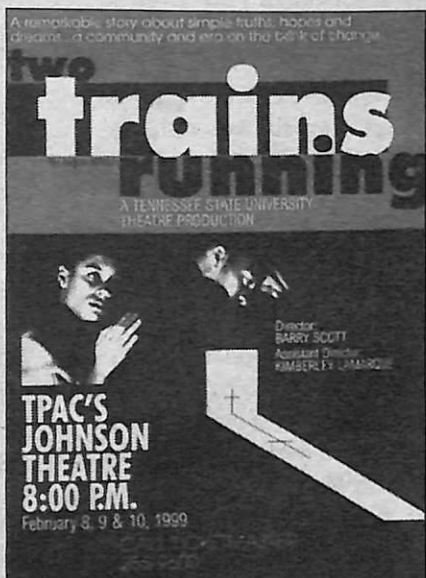
Scott said the play will show TSU as a progressive and positive light in theater. "It is the cutting edge production in America," Scott said.

Other cast members include Samantha Williamson, Marlon Styles and Darrell Ackles.

With the play being performed during Black History Month, Scott hopes the audience will leave with a greater appreciation for the struggle Blacks endured.

"If they feel uplifted at the end of the play, then we did our job," Scott said.

Tickets are \$10 and are available at TicketMaster (255-9600) or the TPAC box office. For more information, contact Kimberly LaMarque (963-7491).



## Fuller removed as director

from page 1

Gentry. "I have full confidence that

Teresa Phillips can handle the job... If my assistance is needed at any time, I will assist in any manner requested."



Teresa Phillips

Gentry currently works at TSU within the department of university relations and development, and is in the midst of running for an at-large Metro Council seat.

"Athletics is and always has been and always will be near and dear to my heart," he said. "I just wish the department all the luck in the world in moving forward and continuing to bring it to the level of success and respectability it once had and deserves to have."

Phillips will remain as interim athletic director until the university makes a decision on who will fill the position on a permanent basis.

## New evaluations will hold teachers accountable

By Tracey Vance  
News Writer

Many Tennessee State University students wonder what happens to the results of the faculty evaluations given to them at the end of each semester to evaluate the teachers.

Now, through the Student Government Association, the students will know.

The SGA, along with other interested students, is in the process of designing new special faculty evaluations for the '98-'99 school year.

Initiated and chaired by SGA vice president Ashley Jefferson, the committee plans to officially have the faculty evaluations dis-

see 'evaluations' on page 8

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# The Meter

## Forum

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## What we think

Last week *The Meter* attempted to conduct a survey to determine who the most powerful students on campus were. The results were troubling.

In addition to people nominating students we had never heard of, a lot of people nominated themselves (you know who you are).

Surprisingly, the people we thought would overwhelmingly win the contest, did not. Out of 60 surveys returned, Student Government Association President Quanita Johnson only received six votes. Mr. and Miss TSU collectively received 13. Others may have received one or two votes randomly, but no one ran away with the competition.

As a result, we determined that students did not understand the difference between someone who has a position of power and a powerful person.

To have power involves the ability to cause an effect. Whereas being powerful is more or less the effect of actions or words. Thus a person that is in power or has power is not necessarily powerful.

Powerful is an adjective, which indicates that it may not apply to all modifiers, namely offices and positions held and or popularity achieved. Often times people are given *credit for being powerful and the truth is, they are not using the power they possess.*

Being powerful means having influence, be it positive or negative, that will at least make a person think about things presented.

A great animated hero, He-man, always said he had the power and he did. The power he had was never held captive in any office nor did he allow the ability he had to change things to remain within him. The entire universe knew of his greatness because his power was active as opposed to passive.

Martin Luther King, Jr and Malcom X were not powerful because of who they were or the organizations they were in. They were powerful because of the messages they sent, the things they did and the influence they had on the lives of others.

A person can have all the power in the world but in order for that power to have merit it must be filled with substance. This substance is a compilation of actions and words. If there is a lack of substance, power may be present, but one in this category is not powerful.

It becomes important to acknowledge the difference between the two in order to change the mindset of people who have power.

Many students consider people to be powerful based on appearance, status, affiliations, popularity and positions held. These people have power but the one thing that they all are not, is powerful. It takes much more than being the cutest or best dresser on campus to be powerful.

We all have the power to accomplish great things but the powerful act or person intercedes when the power one has is exuded in order to contribute to the consciousness of others.

It would be great to have an abundance of powerful individuals on this campus and in society, but powerful people are a rare commodity.



**Ambre S. Brown**

**Editor in Chief**

## A Black history lesson

In Florence, Ala. we make a big deal out of Black History Month.

My mother who reads poetry and performs dramatic interpretations, is always booked solid through schools, churches or civic organizations, this month. When I was in high school, I remember working diligently on the student council to make sure we had a speaker for assembly. We also had a committee to decorate the bulletin boards in the hallways with interesting Black facts and photos.

February would always go well but as soon as it was over, so was the history. And teachers wonder why we would be confused. The information on the bulletin boards would come down and the speakers preaching African heritage were not even considered during the rest of the year.

But the school expected us (the Black students) to be content. The whole idea frustrates me even now. For eight months we study from books that do a wonderful job explaining the history of the country and excluding my heritage. Then in February we were flooded with literature about Martin Luther King and

## From where I sit

a plethora of PBS specials.

So coming to Tennessee State University after being in a predominantly white environment all of my life was a shock.

I did not know who Sonia Sanchez was before I came to Tennessee State. I had never heard of Ann Petry before my difficult and enlightening

Freshman English course. I was ignorant to traditional African symbols and traditions before I enrolled in an Africana Studies course. I know them now, and if you do not, you should.

Before I came to TSU, I was really confused. And I still would be if I had not taken the initiative to change myself and take advantage of the Black History this school offers everyday.

I would have never imagined that I would witness dynamic plays in September, step-shows in October, a true "home-coming" celebration in November and Kwanzaa in December. And never would I have thought I would meet nationally acclaimed authors in January, the Tom Joyner Morning Show in March, elect future leaders in April or talk to Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman in May.

This was history being made at TSU over the course of a year. And most of it did not occur in February. While this month is important, the most valuable memory I will take from my experience here is how Black History transcended just one month and became a way of life.

I think that is what makes historically Black colleges and universities so great. We do not have to

wait until February to roll out the red carpet for our heritage. We can congratulate and celebrate each other whenever we want.

I am so thankful I had the opportunity to take at least one course from the Africana Studies department. It opened my eyes to the reasons Black people behave in such characteristic ways or why the family structure is so important. Only four universities in the nation have departments like ours, making it reason enough to find out what makes us so great.

I am confident that after my education here, I will be ready. But one month did not prepare me, it took four solid years. Now that I am spoiled in the wealth of knowledge I have received here, I know wherever I end up in life, I will forever seek to be informed about my culture, my ancestry, my life.

Take advantage of this month's events. There is a calendar on page 6 with everything from plays to forums to jazz concerts. Cut it out, place it on your wall, keep it in your purse. Do anything but lose it.

Trust me, I know people who would give anything to have a choice of events to attend this month. Mark my word, four out of 10 Black people in Florence will hear my mother perform James Weldon Johnson's *The Creation* this month. I used to be one of those people. But I am not anymore.

Take something from these events that you can carry on with you throughout the year. Join the crusade to make Black History more than a month, make it your lifestyle.

**The Meter is published biweekly and is available free to the Tennessee State University community. Opinions expressed herein are of the writer, not those of the administration, the Student Government Association or the faculty and staff of Tennessee State University.**

### Submission Requirements

The Meter invites submissions by all members of the Tennessee State University community. Timeliness, clarity of thought, factual accuracy, and interest to the university community will be factors in selecting material for publication. All materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All contributions must be typed, double spaced (submitted on 3.5" disks and hard copy), and must include the writer's name, telephone number and P.O. Box.
- Featured articles should not exceed 1,000 words. Opinion length should not exceed 500 words. Letter length should not exceed 300 words.
- Sources of factual material should be included. All claims of fact are subject to verification.
- The Meter reserves the right to reject letters, articles or ads without explanation, and to edit those as necessary.



# Money Talk\$\$\$:

## A moment in financial history



**Marci J. Garner**  
Financial Reporter

### "William B. Fitzgerald: A Pioneer in the Field of Banking"

Since February is Black History Month, I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight a pioneer in the field of banking and finance and the bank he co-founded.

William B. Fitzgerald is credited for co-founding the second largest Black-owned financial institution in the country,

Independence Federal Savings and Loan. He is most remembered for his commitment to the economic prosperity of the growing African-American community in Washington, D.C.

Fitzgerald came from very humble beginnings. Born in Atlantic City, N. J., his family moved to Washington, D.C., when Fitzgerald was an infant. He attended Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School, and later worked as a shoe shiner, a construction worker, a taxi driver, an insulation superintendent, a real estate appraiser, and as director of a small Black-owned bank.

In 1965, William Fitzgerald (along with seven leading businessmen) established the Independence Federal Savings and Loan Association of Washington, D.C. He was concerned the growing Black population was being discriminated against for residential and other loans. After three years of planning, almost \$2.4 million pledged from nearly 2,400 char-

ter members served as the initial capital to open the first Black-owned savings and loan in Washington.

Independence opened its doors just four months after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968. The riots that followed King's death left Washington in shambles. While most businesses were getting out of the predominately Black neighborhoods because of the potential "risk" of failure, Independence served as a beacon of hope for the community.

During the late 1970s and early 1980s, the savings and loan scandal forced the 20 institutions into bankruptcy, left Independence the last one standing.

In 1984, Independence changed to a full service bank. It added the task of financing the education of many deserving students through its massive student loan program. It is currently the largest student lending institution in the Washington area and tar-

gets mostly historically Black colleges and universities (and has even visited Tennessee State University's campus). When other financial institutions began an effort to wean themselves from financing student loans, Independence continued to make it a priority. The institution has increased student loan assets from \$9.8 million to \$70 million.

Fitzgerald was very instrumental in bridging gaps between the races, classes, and political parties in Washington. He started a Thursday luncheon at the bank where people from every walk of life came to simply express an opinion, get a point across, or initiate a change. From city council members to taxi drivers, area cooks to leading power brokers, all were welcome to come to these "off-the-record" roundtable discussions.

These luncheons proved to be so powerful and effective that many government policy changes and community improvements came from them. The luncheons became so popular that Independence Bank began to have annual alumni Thursday luncheons where as many as 500 movers and shakers, ordinary urban dwellers, power brokers and politicians rubbed

elbows.

Besides Independence Bank's impressive reputation in the Washington community, it is the second largest Black-owned bank in the country, with \$261 million in assets, 13,000 accounts and five branches.

Although Fitzgerald and Independence Bank could impact its community and remain committed to being an economic stronghold, it could not convince its Black customers to support the bank outside of mortgage loans.

Seventy percent of Independence Bank's loan customers save their money at white-owned banks. Fitzgerald also was baffled at the fact that a city with a 70 percent Black population could only support two Black-owned banks. "The harm suffered by Blacks because of racism pales in comparison to the harm done by our ignorance of money," Fitzgerald said.

Fitzgerald died on April 13, 1998. His position as CEO was taken over by his daughter, Donna Fitzgerald Shuler. His legacy as a shrewd business man and community minded citizen is personified through Independence Bank's mission. •

## Letters to the Editor

I was dismayed to read the article concerning the formation of the fraternity Sigma Pi. It is interesting to note that some people on the campus think that a "white" fraternity "won't fly" at TSU.

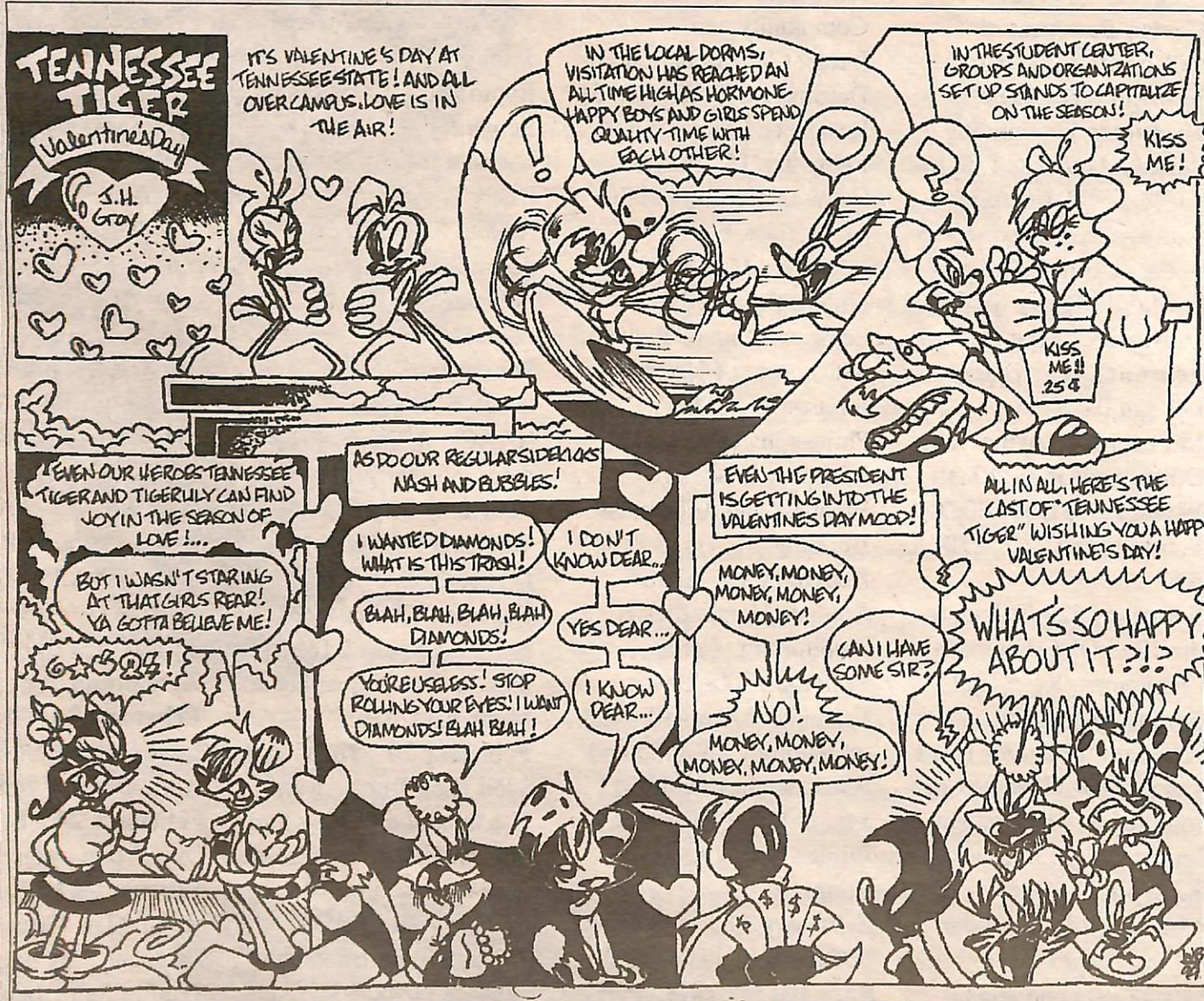
The consensus among some is that an "adjustment" period will be needed. Oh please! Adjustment for what? I know several white men that sought to pledge Alpha Phi Alpha who were turned down.

Though I have had the pleasure to meet one Caucasian Alpha, I would like to know why people of all races are not accepted into TSU's fraternities. Sigma Pi WANTS and ACCEPTS all races, which is brotherhood the way it was intended. Black pride is a good thing, but when it comes at the cost of exclusion, it is not.

As an African-American female, the history of TSU is important to me, but reverse racism has no place at this institution.

**Tracey Bates-Johns**  
PO Box 91125  
Nashville, TN 37209

E-mail letters to:  
[meter@harpo.tnstate.edu](mailto:meter@harpo.tnstate.edu)





# African-American History Month events

## Campus and Community

**February 1-28** - African Arts Exhibition, Crouch Hall Room 210

**February 1-28** - The African American Education Extravaganza, daily at 10 a.m. at the Watkins Park Community Library. Call 862-5872 for more information.

**February 10** - 18th Annual Local Conference "Afro-American Culture and History," Avon Williams Campus, Room 358, 8:30 a.m. Admission \$10 general, \$7 students.

**February 10** - International Coffee Hour, FPCC Room 310, 10 a.m.

**February 11** - Crime Prevention Presents "Kardio Kick-Boxing" by Max Scruggs Karate Center, Basement of Wilson Hall, 7-8 p.m.

**February 11** - "The Hermitage: Interpreting African American Life in the Mid-19th Century," with speaker Larry McKee of the Hermitage. 6 p.m. in Middle Tennessee State University's Peck Hall.

**February 11** - "Black Love in the New Millennium: Loving Self, Others and God - What Would Jesus Do?" FPCC Forum Room 210, 7:30 p.m.

**February 12** - Tribute to the 1998 OVC Football Champions, Kean Hall Gymnasium, 7 p.m.

**February 12 & 13** - Third Annual HBCU Newspaper Conference, "Journalistic Ethics: Insight in Black and White," FPCC

**February 13** - Bookstar and the *Tennessee Tribune's* second annual

book fair event, held from 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. Many speakers and authors will be present, including former Meharry professor and Surgeon General-candidate Dr. Henry Foster and Channel 4 anchor Cynthia Williams. Call Bookstar at 292-7895 or the Anthony J. Cebun Journalism Center at 321-8548 for more information.

**February 14-20** - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Week

**February 15** - "African Americans and the Media," FPCC Forum Room 210, 6 p.m.

**February 16** - Dr. Raymond Winbush, Director of Fisk University's Race Relations Institute, will speak at Heiman St. Residence Center at 7 p.m.

**February 16** - "The African-American Community and Integration - Beneficial or Detrimental?" Heiman St. Residence Center, 7 p.m.

**February 16** - "Zetas Game Day," Elliot Hall Auditorium, 6 p.m.

**February 16** - "Modern Philosophy and the Legitimization of Racism," with speaker Clarence Johnson of MTSU's Philosophy department; 3:30 p.m. in MTSU's Business and Aerospace Building.

**February 17** - Sister Souljah, Humanities Bldg. Auditorium, 7 p.m.

**February 17** - Dr. Frederick Price will speak on theology, religion and Black Studies from 9-11 a.m. at Fisk University, in Jubilee Hall's Appleton Room.

**February 17** - "Community lecture on Race and Religion - Part

I," from 7-9 p.m. in Fisk University's Memorial Chapel.

**February 18** - Dr. Frederick Price hosts "Community Lecture on Race and Religion - Part II," from 7-9 p.m. in Fisk University's Memorial Chapel.

**February 18** - Brotherhood-Sisterhood Luncheon in the Opryland Hotel's Tennessee Ballroom, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.. Call the National Conference for Community and Justice at 327-1755 for more information.

**February 18** - "Paradigms and Pedagogy Issues in African American Education," at 4 p.m. in MTSU's Business and Aerospace Building.

**February 18** - "Religious Sexism in the New Millennium: Women in the Ministry - What Would Jesus Do?" FPCC Forum Room 210

**February 19** - "An Afternoon with Dr. Bernie Casey - Actor/ Artist/ Athlete," FPCC Forum Room 210, 1 p.m.

**February 19** - Freedom Fund Banquet at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel, 6:30 p.m. Call the NAACP at 329-0999 for more information.

**February 20** - "The Woodson Family: Black Descendants of U.S. President Thomas Jefferson Speak," from 7-9 p.m. in Fisk University's Memorial Chapel.

**February 20** - The Coretta Scott King Book Awards, 11 a.m. at the Hadley Park Library. Call 862-5865 for more information.

**February 20** - Black History Month Banquet featuring keynote speaker

Sonia Sanchez. Vanderbilt Holiday Inn, 6:30 p.m.

**February 21** - "A Soulful Celebration," featuring Lillette Jenkins-Wisner, Pianist. Music Bldg. Auditorium, 4 p.m.

**February 21** - Great Debate Interest Tea, Elliot Hall Room 301, 6:30 p.m.

**February 21** - An Afternoon with the Jubilee Singers, 3 p.m. at the Main Library, 225 Polk Avenue. Call 862-8755 for more information.

**February 21-27** - Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Week

**February 22** - Lillette Jenkins-Wisner, Pianist - "Lecture/ Master Class," Music Bldg. Auditorium, 10 a.m.

**February 22** - Lillette Jenkins-Wisner, Pianist - "Lecture/ Master Class," Music Bldg. Auditorium, 10 a.m.

**February 22** - Miss Nubian Queen Pageant, 7 p.m. Place TBA

**February 22** - Former TSN Athletic Director Vivian Fuller speaks "Women in Sports," Nashville Peace and Justice Center (1016 18th Ave. South) at the monthly meeting for the National Organization for Women. Call NOW at 269-7141 for more information.

**February 23** - "Africa My Africa," 6 p.m., Place TBA

**February 23** - "Don't You Want to be Free?" Humanities Bldg. Auditorium, 6 p.m.

**February 24** - "Hooked on Love," Humanities Bldg. Auditorium, 7 p.m.

**February 24** - Black Love Day, 7 p.m., place TBA

**February 24** - Book reading of "The Gifts of Kwanzaa," by author Synthia Saint James. 11

a.m. luncheon in MTSU's Union Building, Tennessee Room.

**February 25** - Tennessee State University Concert Band, "Music of African Campuses," Humanities Bldg. Auditorium, 7 p.m.

**February 25** - Wilberforce University Choir, Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church (1300 South St.), 7 p.m.

**February 25** - "An Evening of Jazz" starring vocalist Linda Porter, 6 p.m. at the Looby Branch Library (2301 MetroCenter Blvd.)

**February 25** - "Soul Food Sampler - Family Story Hour," 6:15 p.m. at the Thompson Lane Branch Library (380 Thompson Lane). Call 862-5873 for more information.

**February 26** - Dr. Hollace Brooks Symposium, Agricultural Research Center, 10:30 a.m.

**February 26 & 27** - 5th Annual African Studies Conference, "Celebrating HBCU's: Status Curriculum and Paradigm," FPCC Forum Room 210, 8 a.m.

**February 27** - Africana Studies "Karamu," Elliot Hall, 3rd Floor, 6:30 p.m.

**February 27** - Joy DeCruy-Leary speaks on "Post-Traumatic Slave Syndrome: A Closer Look at African American Male violence," at 6 p.m. in Fisk University's Memorial Chapel.

**February 28** - AAGHS Genealogy Society Mini-Workshop, at 2 p.m. at the Looby Branch Library (2301 MetroCenter Blvd.)

**February 28** - Annual Delta Sigma Theta "High School Black History Quiz Bowl," FPCC Forum Room 210, 2 p.m. •



## Community View

# Volunteerism alive in Tennessee

## Community aids tornado-stricken city

By Hillary S. Condon  
Community View Editor

The "Volunteer Spirit" that Tennessee brags about in its state slogan has been shown for the past two weeks in Clarksville, Tenn., as hundreds of volunteers from Clarksville and surrounding areas have answered the call of neighbors in need.

Millions of dollars in damage was done to homes, businesses, schools and streets on Jan. 22 after a tornado struck the historic town, but the activities of citizens in the area has helped to ease the pain.

The spirit of compassion was also apparent at Tennessee State University, where the Student Government Association raised \$310.68 from the student body in one week. The money was presented to Austin Peay State University SGA President Rebecca McGraw at the APSU vs. TSU basketball game Jan. 30.

According to McGraw, the SGA and the university had set up a relief fund for all students, on and off campus. The majority of the funds raised, including those raised at TSU, will be given to students for replacement of books, toiletries, and other small expenses for property lost or damaged by the tornado.

The rest of the money will cover expenses to the school that were not donated or covered by insurance, like film for photography classes or equipment for chem-



PHOTO BY JOHN CARROLL

**Members of TSU's Student Government Association present APSU's SGA President with a banner signed by students along with a check for \$310.68.**

istry classes.

"Our motto around here is, if we don't have it, we will get it," said McGraw. "There is nothing we will deny our students in their time of need."

Other organizations have donated to Austin Peay for specific causes. Area churches, for example, donated funds to help repair cars damaged by debris.

There were a few buildings on campus that were spared damage during the tornado, including one residence hall. However, one residence hall, in addition to two other campus buildings, were condemned as a result of the storm.

The oldest building on APSU's campus, the former home of the president, was severely damaged. This building, due to its status of respectability in Tennessee's historic building society, will receive federal funds for repairs restoring it to its original, "historic" state. •

## Late-night cravings finally have a home

### Taste of Chicago strives to fill void of midnight munchies

By G. Thaddeus Flowers  
Community View Writer

Four students from Tennessee State University and Meharry Medical College have created an option to resolve late-night food cravings through their convenient new diner, Taste of Chicago.

Two years ago, TSU engineering majors Trevor Scott and Elliott Rushing, along with two of their friends at Meharry Medical College, decided to do something about the lack of prepared food available in the TSU area during early morning hours. Realizing the market for after-hours food, they concluded the best way to make a change was to open their own establishment.

"We wanted to provide a place that was open late at night," said Derek Scott, one of the founders from Meharry. Scott and his business partners accomplished

their goal by keeping the restaurant, located at 1801 Jefferson St., open until 2 a.m. Monday through Thursday and until 4 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

Owners of Taste of Chicago gave special thought to their menu, which includes choices that appeal to all customers. Taste of Chicago offers a wide selection of fast food entrees from fried chicken to Philly steak sandwiches. The house specialty is the super-dressed, dill pickled, Chicago-style hot dog. All entrees are served with fries, and menu prices range from \$2.25 to \$6.50.

The founders of Taste of Chicago are now making plans to grow into one of the most prominent businesses in the community surrounding TSU. According to Derek Scott, the entrepreneurs hope to have a scholarship foundation and other charities to help students at TSU. Right now, they are working on the organization of a youth baseball team for the Jefferson Street neighborhood.

"We want to be a guiding force in the food industry, as well as the Black community," Scott said. •

**If you have a Black business you would like to see spotlighted in the Community View section, call 963-5555.**

## Community Calendar

**February 11-13** - *I Hate Hamlet*, in the Pull-Tight Theatre, located at 112 2nd Ave. South in Franklin. Show times 8 p.m. Thurs.- Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. \$8 for students. Call 790-3204 for more information.

**February 14** - Healing and Wholeness Service, to be held in Scarritt-Bennet Center's Wightman Chapel, located at 1008 18th Ave. South, at 4:30 p.m. Call 340-7557 for more information.

**February 16** - "The Evolution of Racism," series of lectures, to be held in BAS S316 at Middle Tennessee State University, at 3:30 p.m.

**February 18** - Training Event for Providing Services to Children of Battered Women, sponsored by the Tennessee Task Force Against Domestic Violence. Will be held at the Madison Church of Christ, located at 106 Gallatin Rd. Call 868-3360 for more information.

**February 18** - David Lipscomb University's Jazz Band will present a winter concert at 6 p.m. in Ward Lecture Auditorium on the DLU campus, located at 3901 Granny White Pike. Call 269-1000, ext. 2258, for more information.

**February 18-20** - David Lipscomb University's Drama Dept. will hold a series of one-act plays in the Arena Theater on the DLU campus, located at 3901 Granny White Pike. Each show begins at 7:30 p.m. Call 269-1000, ext. 2367, for more information.

**February 22** - David Lipscomb University's Concert Band will present a winter concert at 7 p.m. in Collins Alumni Auditorium on the DLU campus, located at 3901 Granny White Pike. Call 269-1000, ext. 2258, for more information.

**February 23** - "The Evolution of Racism," series of lectures, to be held in BAS S316 at Middle Tennessee State University, at 3:30 p.m.

**February 25** - Taize Evening Prayer services will be held at Scarritt-Bennet Center's Wightman Chapel, located at 1008 18th Ave. South, beginning at 7 p.m. Call 790-3204 for more information.

**Through February 26** - Vanderbilt University's Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center presents "Have We Really Come that Far?" folk art by Helen G. Lewis. Located in the Franklin Bldg., 316 West Side Row, Vanderbilt Univ. Call 322-4843 for more information.



## New evaluations will let teachers know where they really stand

from page 3

patched by the end of the spring semester or the beginning of the fall semester. The surveys will probably be in scantron method and the results available to the students.

"It will be like a teacher handbook for students," said Jefferson. "I hope students will appreciate (the faculty evaluations) and that this will help them in registration."

Jefferson also said that this will let teachers know where they stand with the students and hopefully help the ones that make low scores improve.

Although the current evaluations are not revealed to students, the heads of departments and faculty are aware of the results.

Maurice Odine, head of the department of communications, said that he not only receives the results of his department's evaluations, but he sometimes visits the classroom environment to observe teachers.

Odine feels that if there are low scores on the faculty evaluations, then the necessary precautions should be taken to discipline the instructor.

"If it's persistent, then disciplinary action will be taken, and if I can't solve the problem, then it goes to the higher levels," Odine said.

Some faculty members feel that the new evaluations will be interesting.

Liquan Yan, associate professor of journalism, said, "No one has talked to me about my results and I haven't heard any complaints from students, but I think it will be a very interesting practice."

However, she also adds that some faculty members may receive unfair treatment in the evaluations because they are strict or gave a student a low grade.

Both Yan and Odine felt that the SGA should consult with faculty and select heads of departments for input before distributing the new evaluations.

SGA President Quanita Johnson said that SGA needs the support of the students in order for the faculty evaluations to work. She often receives negative as well as positive feedback from students about faculty.

"Many of my peers come to me with complaints about the faculty here," Johnson said. The biggest problem, according to Johnson, was teachers with an inability to give correct answers to questions asked by students about an assignment. Another complaint Johnson has received is about outdated teaching methods.

Students seem to be in favor of the change.

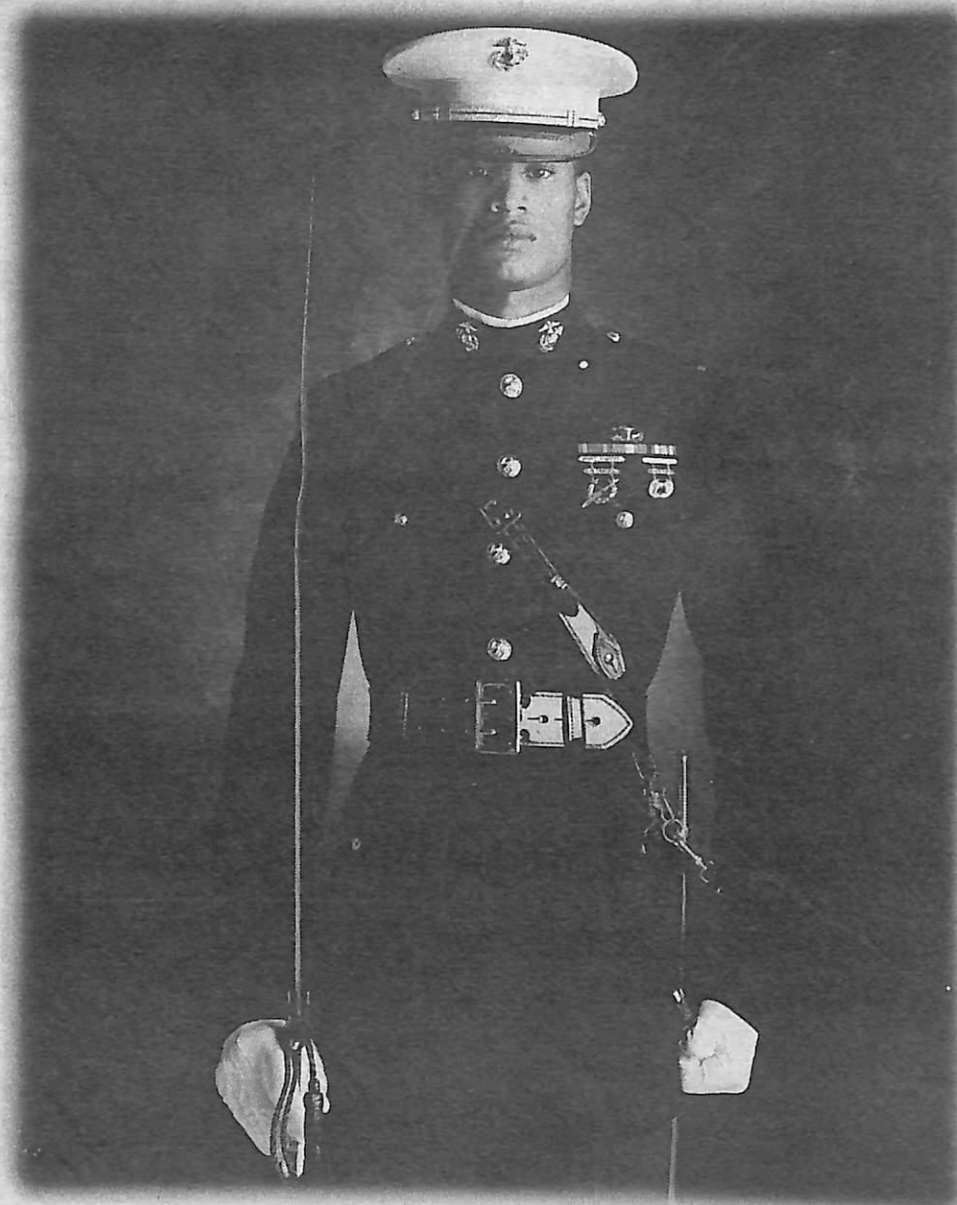
"I feel that this is a good idea, but the conflict of not accommodating everyone will arise," senior Candace McKinney said.

Darrell Wilson, a business administration major said that the new evaluations will give students an opportunity to see the good and bad. "They're all adults and can take an insult as well as a compliment," Wilson said.

"I'm looking forward to the new evaluations," said Tracie Taylor, a speech communications major, "because there's always room for bigger and better things."

The Meter is looking for photographers! If you are interested and have your own camera, please contact John Carroll or Ambre S. Brown at 963-5652 for more information.

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- Grand Rapids, located in West Michigan, is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city in the state with a diverse population of approx. 200,000 served by 387 sworn officers. Recruiters may be contacted by phone at 616-456-4208, by e-mail at [grptng@iserv.net](mailto:grptng@iserv.net) or in person on:
- Feb. 17, 1999 between 9 and 11 AM at Tennessee State University. (Contact Career Development Office for details)
  - Feb. 17, 1999 between 1 and 4 PM in the lobby of the Keathley University Center at Middle Tenn. State Univ.
- Applications and info will be available at those times. AA/EOE.  
See us on-line at [www.grpolice.grand-rapids.mi.us](http://www.grpolice.grand-rapids.mi.us)



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# The Meter presents

To my best friends

"Fatina" & "Mia",

Happy Valentine's Day

and remember to always

love those who love you.

Your Best Friend,

Miss Destinee

To my new love "J"

Happy Valentine's Day,

I hope that this day

means as much to you as

it does to me. Be mine.

Shalonda

Boo,

For almost all year, I

have been graced with

the overwhelming pres-

ence of you in my life. I

thank and love you.

RxR

To: Allen Ho Hon II

Thanking you for the

wonderful times

Praying for many more

We look to the future

And all that is in store

I've found something in

you I pray will never

end.

Before we fell in love

You proved yourself to

be a friend.

Al, thank you for always

being there for me.

I truly believe that you

are heaven sent; just for

me.

I look forward to our

future.

Love Always,

KaVita B. Payne

Cassandra,

Baby, something  
strange is happening.

You do belong to me,

Everyday I see I'm not

alone in my dreams.

I love you girl straight

solid.

To: Jac

From: Court

My Love,

You are so precious in

all your thoughts and

ways, You make me hap-

pier than mere words

could say.





## Luv Lines

Anissa Johnson,  
I don't know if you're  
mad or not, but sorry  
about your birthday. I  
promise I'll make it up to  
you.

Your FRIEND,

T.S.

To: My Mother  
From: Dwight  
Happy Valentine's Day  
to the greatest mom in  
the world.

To: Rev. Terrell L.  
Scruggs Sr.  
From: Carmen Scruggs  
Happy Valentine's Day,  
to a man who has taught  
me what Unconditional  
Love is.  
I love you, babe.

To: Beverly, Savonya,  
Melonie, Melorra,  
Catrina, Vonetta,  
Laquore, Jamil, Tasha.  
This is what all of you  
are.

Forever  
Remaining  
In

Every  
Need and  
Desire -  
Melonie, Carrita

From: Stephen R.

Towne

To a wonderful Mom and Love,  
Dad

Happy Valentine's Day  
to all the lovely ladies at  
TSU

From: MacTrel

To: Nicole

From: Demel

You'll always be the  
apple of my eye. I can  
never stop thinking about  
you, no matter how hard  
I try. I'll love you  
always.

To: MCRW

You're my sweet, almost  
chocolate angel. By  
watching the moon and  
shooting stars, I know  
there will never be  
another like you.

To a wonderful Mom and Love,  
MCRW



# Tennessee State University

## Department of Residence Life

### HOUSING PRE-REGISTRATION 1999-2000

Students may begin reserving rooms in the residence halls of their choice for Fall 1999 and Spring 2000 at 10:00am on the dates below. All persons currently living in university housing desiring to reside on campus must complete an application for the 1999-2000 academic year. Housing applications must be submitted before April 1, 1999 to ensure housing accommodations for the upcoming academic year. To avoid unwanted housing charges and to provide necessary living spaces, please void any unneeded housing as soon as possible. Preferred roommates must present applications at the same time.

***DO NOT SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO MORE THAN ONE LOCATION***

Directors	Residence Hall	Student Classification	Date
Mr. D. Smith	Boyd	Soph., Jr., and Sr. (Males)	February 8, 1999
Ms. S. Hampton Ms. M. Turner	Eppse	Soph., Jr., and Sr. (Females)	February 8, 1999
Ms. V. Jackson	Hankal	Soph., Jr., and Sr. (Females)	February 8, 1999
Ms. C. Greer Mr. C. Henderson	Hale	Jrs. & Srs. (co-ed) currently in University Honors Program	February 8, 1999
Ms. E. Bass Mr. S. Modena Mr. S. Coya	Heiman Street Residence Center	Seniors Only (co-ed)	February 8, 1999
Ms. C. Fuller Ms. S. Frey	Rudolph Residence Center	Soph., Jr., and Sr. (Females)	February 8, 1999
Mr. K. Norman	Watson	Incoming Freshmen Only (Males)	N/A
Ms. T. Owens Mrs. M. King Ms. P. Mabry	Wilson	Incoming Freshmen Only (Females)	N/A
Ms. S. Smith Mr. O. Cowley	Court Villa Apartments	Soph., Jr., and Sr. (co-ed)	February 8, 1999
Mr. W. Arnold	Thomas & Jones Apartments	Jrs. and Srs. (co-ed)	February 8, 1999

***Be sure to secure your housing before April 1, 1999***



## Arts &amp; Entertainment



## CD Ratings

- 5- Blazin'  
4- Sizzlin'  
3- Smokin'  
2- Luke Warm  
1- Burned Out

**Foxy Brown Chyna Doll 4**

Foxy is your 'round-the-way girl who happens to be Def Jam's dime, hip-hop's clotheshorse and she rolls with Jay-Z.

Maybe all of that factors into why she avoids the sophomore jinx on *Chyna Doll*. With tracks like "Chyna Whyte" and the first single "Hot Spot," she holds her own, despite rumors that she doesn't pen her own lyrics.

Mya and Total help out on the hooks of "JOB" and "I Can't" respectively. But, things really heat up when she and Jay-Z collaborate on "Bonnie & Clyde Part II."

Beanie Siegel's lyrics, Memphis Bleek's raw hunger and Foxy's delivery are explosive on "4-5-6." Mia X and Gangsta Boo exercise their girl power on "BWA," but this track never seems to mesh.

Foxy even gives props to women like Faith Evans, your aunt Helen and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton on "It's Hard Being Wifey," which features superthug Noreaga.

The beats are blazin' and the delivery is dynamic, but why does she suddenly sound like Lil' Kim? Maybe Lil' Kim will sound like the old Foxy on her new album.

KEITH BARBEE



Foxy Brown

## DISCuss THIS

R. Kelly R. 3

By Keith Barbee

Arts & Entertainment Editor

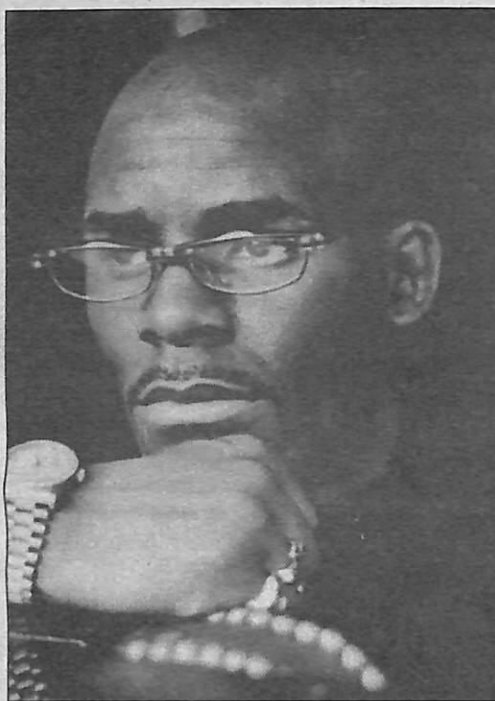
Is R. Kelly mad or just genius? Who else can make the ordinary extraordinary with the essence of a lyric?

He has talked about everything from "Honey Love" with Public Announcement, told women they reminded him of jeeps, believed he could fly and did just that with several Grammys.

Between all of that, he still managed to write and produce for Aaliyah, Changing Faces, Kelly Price and Sparkle. Not to mention playing basketball and putting "Half On A Baby."

But it's when Robert Kelly talks about the simplest of subjects that he seems most complex. Like on the current single "When A Woman's Fed Up" or the singles "Get Up On A Room," "One Man," and "Don't Put Me Out."

The track "We Ride" actually comes to a complete stop and goes no where except for the hot rhymes orchestrated by guest rappers Cam'Ron, Noreaga,



Jay-Z and Vegas Cats.

R. Kelly is at his best when it's just him and his music on tracks like "Etcetera," "If I Could Turn Back The Hands Of Time," and "Down Low Double Life" in which he sings *Now I done lost the houses the kids and the dogs/ Now I'm sleeping in my momma's house/ And even she says your sorry @ss don't deserve no help.*

Even more than his predilection with making love is his fascination with money and fame on songs like "V.I.P.," "Did You Ever Think," and "Dollar Bill" with the prima donna known as Foxy Brown.

Although, R. Kelly is best solo, his collaborations with fellow Chi-town natives Crucial Conflict on "Ghetto Queen" and "I'm Your Angel" with Celine Dion are definitely noteworthy.

Robert Kelly is mad- mad busy being a genius. •

**Dru Hill Enter The Dru 3**

Is it because my best friend thinks that Dru Hill is the best thing since Smucker's Jelly or because my roommates keep me up late nights listening to this CD? Or is it because these Baltimore, Md. natives can sing? Has Dru Hill become our generation's Four Tops? Maybe, maybe not.

With much of the writing, production and vocal arrangements carried out by group members Sisqo, Nokio, Woody and Jazz, it is evident that they are far from anyone's sophomore jinx. *Enter The Dru* is part hip-hop, part old school soul and all Dru Hill.

The disc fails at up-tempo's ("Real Freaks" and the Method Man-assisted "This Is What We Do"), but makes up for those mishaps with the Diane Warren-blessed "What Do I Do With The Love," Nokio's "What Are We Gonna Do" and

written by Jazz, and the Nokio-penned ballads "I'm Wondering" and "Beauty."

My roommates and my best friend can "enter the dru" but, the Four Tops they are not- at least not yet. KEITH BARBEE

**4080 Hip Hop Magazine Presents... Bay Area's Greatest Hits, Volume 1 2**

If you want to take a trip to the old school, this is the CD for you. This disc provides a collage of the Bay area's greatest hits from artists like Dru Down, Mac Mall, MC Hammer, MC Pooh and an array of others.

Remember The Conscious Daughters and the "Fonky Expedition" that they took us on? How could you forget Digital Underground's "Freaks of the Industry"? The only "ballas" and "hustlas" I heard were E-40 & The Click on "Captain Save a H≥@" and the Luniz on "I Got 5 On It."

This is the kind of CD that you would listen to on a Friday night, sipping red Kool-Aid, while chilling at your cousin's birthday party. METRA BAUGH

**Crumbox Map of the Sky 5**

Absolutely, positively supreme. This CD is everything alternative music should be.

Every single track possesses something creative or original, emotional and childish, but in a fun and energetic way.

Outstanding tracks include "Negative Type," "Gravity Girl," "Fourth of July," "Golden State" and the album closer, "Your Music's Dead."

Pop in Crumbox, listen to the realistic lyrics and visualize a map in the sky that leads to alternative music heaven!

KIULEIA BRANDON

**Mariah Carey #1's 5**

This is one of her best albums yet! Mariah's number one's take you on a ride from her very first album which featured "Vision of Love" to her current remake of Brenda K. Starr's "I Still Believe".

With the added tracks of the popular duet "Sweetheart" with Jermaine Dupri and "Whenever You Call" with balladeer Brian McKnight, her number one's are worthy of buying because, after all, these are the songs you made number one. SPARKLE DAVIS •



Mariah Carey



# Checking for real sex appeal

## Sexy: To be or not to be

By Keith Barbee

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Sex appeal! They say that L.L. Cool J. and Lisa Raye ("Diamond" of *Players Club*) have it; Halle Berry, Sisqo of Dru Hill, Jennifer Lopez and Denzel Washington have it.

It is quite evident that sex sells (ask Foxy Brown or Lil' Kim), but what makes a person sexy? It is in the curve of the hips, the fullness of the lips, it is the way you walk, talk or smile. It is the shoes you wear or the way you comb your hair, it is the smell of a fragrance or the wink of an eye. It is the way you say hi or even good-bye.

Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary defines sexy as, "generally attractive or interesting; appealing." But, sex appeal goes far beyond physical attributes, to include elements such as attitude, sensuality and the very essence of an individual.

"Sexy is a man who has good hygiene and smells good," Faith Cornelius, a sophomore from Chicago, said. "He has to have intellect; I love that. A man who can dress, has humor and is freaky." Cornelius also finds spirituality to be sexy.

Senior Constance Carlisle from Toledo, Ohio, finds confidence, posture and the way one carries himself worthy of deeming an individual sexy. "Sexy is

someone who stands out in a crowd," she said.

Kalid Williams, a junior from Louisville, Ky., said. "It's their essence, charisma or vibe that they give off."

Some say it is clothes that make the man. Senior LaDonna Webster from Beckley, W.Va., agrees. "I love men in suits," she said. "I've always been attracted to men in suits; basketball, track, any kind of uniform."

Carlisle added, "Someone who is not that cute can be sexy. It's not what you wear, but how you wear it."

Celebrities fascinate audiences with sex appeal. Elvis Presley's gyrating hip, Marilyn Monroe's charm and Barry White's velvety voice have intrigued many.

"Michael McCrary of Boyz II Men is sexy because of his sexy voice," Stephanie

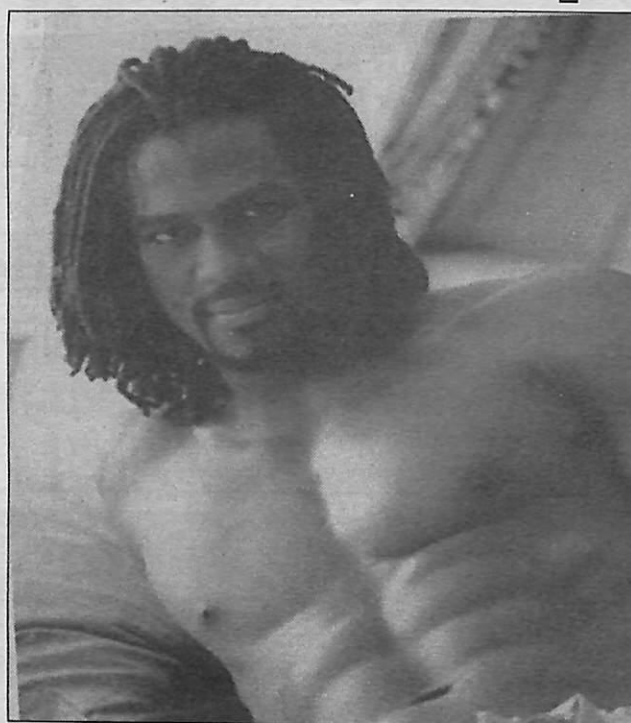
McHarty, a freshman from Memphis, said. Demonstrating that the voice also is a sexual magnet, Webster added "accents are sexy."

Janet Jackson has more than a few admirers who swear by her ability to exude sexiness. "She has a pretty smile and a nice figure," Senior Marc Thomas said. Williams

shares the thoughts of Thomas. "Her style and physical appearance are sexy," he said. "She's different, but not too far gone."



Singer and Actress Taral Hicks



Model Ryan Gentles

Singer, actress and sometimes model Taral Hicks, who recently starred in Hype Williams' *Belly* as the dime (a perfect 10) who loves DMX, is a sex symbol. Hicks admirer Peter Guyton, a junior from Memphis, believes her appearance is sexy. "She's nice and chocolate," he said.

Actor Blair Underwood is also a sex-appeal contender. "He has a clean look, a nice body and an even tone," junior Carrita Hightower from Memphis said.

Many find that Italians and Latinos have a certain sex appeal. Latino celebrities like Antonio Banderas, Rosie Perez and Salma Hayek have been said to possess that quality.

Hair styles such as the ponytail sported by Banderas and Steven Seagal appeal to some women. Other women are intrigued by the dreaded locks that adorn the heads of model Ryan Gentles and hip hop superstar Mr. Cheeks of the Lost Boyz.

But the bald heads that appear on

Michael Jordan, Malik Yoba and Tyson Beckford appeal to others. Tyson's head is not the only feature that appeals to women.

"Tyson Beckford is so chocolate. He has strong features, his eyes are mysterious because of the slant and his body is off the hook," Carlisle said. "The way he looks into the camera is just so deep, like he's looking into you."

Celebrities also have their ideas about who or what constitutes sexy. Van "Thrill Da Playa" Bryant of The 69 Boyz said, "They don't have to be pretty or handsome, it's a combination of the way they carry themselves and the confidence within."

He further contends that Elise Neal of the popular ABC sitcom *The Hughley's* is sexy. "She's the bomb, her body is tight," he said.

Fresh Kid Ice of The 2 Live Crew is no stranger to sex appeal even in his controversy, which includes, as he stated, "going over the edge...getting buck naked and loose." But with all that he has seen, he now experiences sexuality in less graphic ways. "It's the subtle things...the simple things that are sexy," he said.

Given all that, when talking about what sexy is, consider also what it is not. "People who are real quiet are not sexy," Williams said. "People who don't carry themselves well or have low self-esteem."

"Many factors weigh heavily in the sex quotient," Catrina Richardson, a junior from Racine, WI. said. "Sexiness is something natural that comes from within."

"Trying to be sexy," she said, "is not sexy."

## The Book Shelf

The Book Shelf is a welcome addition to a section that captures the essence of CD's and the heart of movies. The Book Shelf will highlight books and novels that are worthy of pulling from the shelf and blowing off the dust to thumb through its pages.

### Wives Detail Lavish Lifestyles and Big Business of NBA

By Keith Barbee

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Cartier wristwatches, diamond tennis bracelets, and gold and platinum dreams are the premise of the fictional *Homecourt Advantage* by Rita Ewing and Crystal

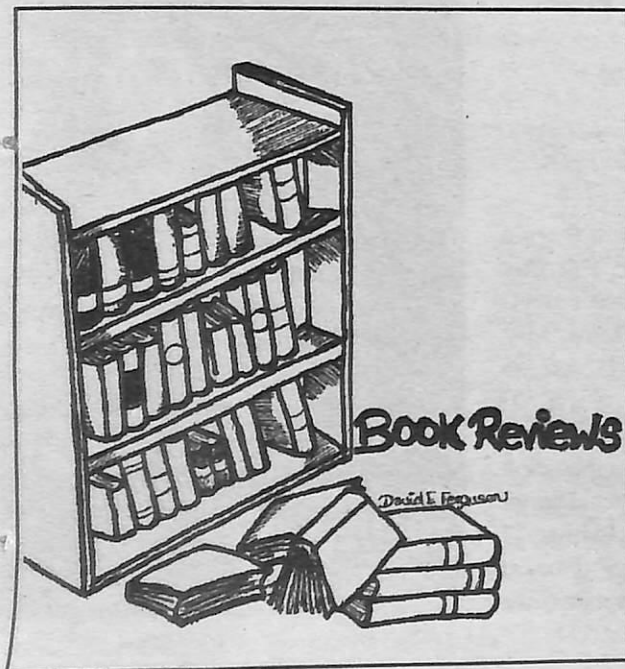
McCrary.

Rita (wife of New York Knicks Patrick Ewing) and Crystal (wife of Seattle Supersonics Greg Anthony) are professional women, best friends and NBA wives. The two women detail the lavish lifestyles, backstabbing, gossip, empty relationships and big business of the NBA.

Casey Rogers is wife of franchise player Brent Rogers of the New York Flyers. She serves as unofficial "captain" of the players' wives because of her professionalism, strength and tactfulness. The team's GQ cover coach Mike Mitchell and meddlesome wife Alexis have their own agendas, but never fail to keep appearances in the process.

Hal Hirshfield is the aging owner of the Flyers, who has been owned by his family for more than 50 years. In his old age and the changing times, Hirshfield is consid-

see 'Homecourt' on page 15





## Arts &amp; Entertainment

# Rent explores society's social ills: drugs and poverty

By Keith Barbee

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Imagine a theater production set to a Timbaland groove with a Missy hook that encapsulates the raw energy of Busta Rhymes. That production would have to be *Rent*, which *Newsweek* Magazine heralds as "The Breakthrough Musical of the '90s."

*Rent* is a funk-inspired play with many of today's social ills, such as drugs and poverty serving as a backdrop to the simplistic plot. Benny (Carl Thornton in the role formerly occupied by Taye Diggs of *How Stella Got Her Groove Back*) is the ex-roommate of Mark (Scott Hunt) and Roger (Christian Mena).

With financial backing from his father-in-law, Benny purchases a building and adjoining lot inhabited with homeless people. Benny has high-tech ambitions for the building and is turning it into a cyber-arts studio. Therefore, the tenants, including Mark and Roger, have

to be evicted.

The show goes on to detail the events that take place and shape the lives of 15 very diverse people in the course of a year.

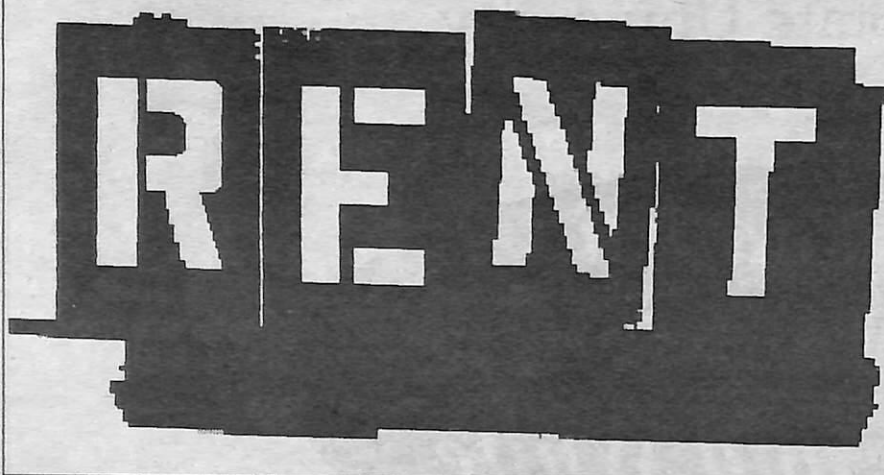
*Rent* also explores such topics as love, AIDS and homosexuality, while continuing to satisfy musical palates with riveting numbers like "Light My Candle" and "Without You," performed by Roger and Mimi (Julia Santana), and the company's powerful rendition of "Seasons of Love."

Maureen (Cristina Fadale) is a one-woman show in "Over the Moon" and dynamically compliments Joanne

(Monique Daniels) in "Take Me or Leave Me," a hotter-than-the-Brandy/Monica duet.

The show continues to raise eyebrows and cause silenced chuckles as the ensemble talks about dildos and masturbation and excessively uses profanity.

*Rent* definitely is not *Annie*, but it does encompass "The Hard Knock Life," a life that is full of kicks, not kisses. \*



## Success by Remix

By Keith Barbee

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Remixes of a song can make or break a career, just ask some of the following artists and the people who blazed their singles- making them gold and platinum artists.

Some of the people who dropped an ill verse on a single went on to more successful careers than those they aided (see Gina Thompson and Missy Elliott's "The Things You Do." Others took what were mediocre songs ("No Guarantee", "I'm Not A Player") and remixed them into Billboard hits.

"Brokenhearted" Brandy/ Wanya Morris of Boyz II Men

"No Guarantee" Chico DeBarge/ Joe

"I Wanna Be Down" Brandy/ MC Lyte/ Yo Yo/ Queen Latifah

"Horse & Carriage" Cam'ron/ Big Punisher/ Wyclef/ Charli Baltimore/ Silkk The Shocker

"Be Happy" Mary J. Blige/ Keith Murray

"Anything" SWV/ Wu-Tang Clan

"Friend of Mine" Kelly Price/ R. Kelly/ Ron Isley

"I Shot Ya" L.L. Cool J./ Rampage/ Fat Joe/ Foxy Brown/ Prodigy

"4,3, 2, 1" L.L. Cool J./ Redman/ Method Man/ Canibus/ Master P.

"You're Making Me High" Toni Braxton/ Foxy Brown

"In My Bed" Dru Hill/ Jermaine Dupri/ Da Brat

"Honey" Mariah Carey/ The Lox/ Mase/ Puff Daddy

"Cold Rock A Party" MC Lyte/ Missy Elliott

"The Things You Do" Gina Thompson/ Missy Elliott

"Only You" 112/ Mase/ The Notorious B.I.G.

"Top of the World" Brandy/ Fat Joe/ Big Punisher

"You're The One" SWV/ Trigger The Gambler/ Smooth The Hustler

"All I Need" Method Man/ Mary J. Blige

"Tonight's the Night" Blackstreet/ SWV

"I Get Lonely" Janet Jackson/ Blackstreet

"Still Not A Player" Big Punisher/ Joe

Look for *Out to Lunch*, a new addition to the A&E section in the next issue.

*Out to Lunch* will feature critiques of local Nashville restaurants.



## Homecourt Advantage

from page 14

ering selling the team to Leonard Hightower, a known racist and opportunist.

Add in Jake the conniving agent, Collin DuMott, Rick Belleville the gambler, and the multitude of other interesting characters and this book is *Another World* meets *The Bold and the Beautiful*. *Homecourt Advantage* is definitely a book to add to your shelf.

A search for a  
Chocolate Star

By Sparkle Davis

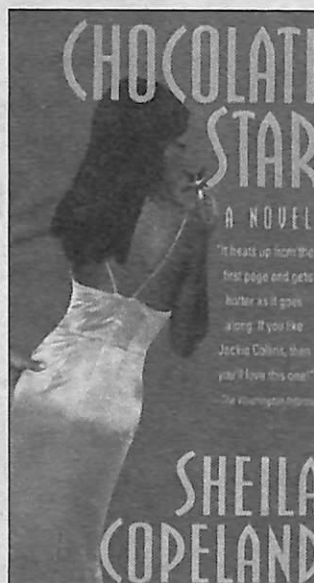
Arts and Entertainment Writer

*Chocolate Star* focuses on the lives

of three young individuals- Sean "Syk" Ross, Topaz Black and Gunther Lawrence.

Sean is an aspiring basketball player trying to make it to the NBA.

With the temptation of sex and drugs sur-



rounding him, he makes a conscious choice not to get involved because he wants to stay true to his Christian beliefs.

Topaz Black, an up and coming singer has the world in the palm of her hand, but her life becomes engulfed with a series of bad choices that ultimately lead her to a life of emptiness and heartache. Gunther Lawrence, a suitor of Topaz, is a critically acclaimed director who tries to better his life after having been involved with drugs and the mafia.

Numerous developments like unplanned pregnancies, domestic abuse and lost love add to the mystique of a book that will make you say "D@#\$ that was good!" \*



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## Sports

## African American History Celebration

*African Americans in the Media*

**George Curry**, editor in chief,  
*Emerge* magazine

**Doug Johnson**, managing editor,  
WTVF Channel 5

**Sam Latham**, publisher and editor,  
*The Urban Journal*

**Dwight Lewis**, weekend city editor,  
*The Tennessean*

**Ambre S. Brown**, editor in chief,  
*The Meter*

FPCC Rm 210

February 15, 1999

6 p.m.

## Last points made for Price and the American Basketball League

By Sean Livingston  
Sports Editor

When KaTrina Price signed in 1996 to play for the Philadelphia Rage of the now-defunct American Basketball League, she had everything to live for. But on Jan. 18, the once sprightly 23-year-old reportedly committed suicide.

When her body was found in her Nacogdoches, Texas home, it was as lifeless as the league that closed its doors on Dec. 23. Glenda Shead, one of Price's eight sisters, said a despondent Price called her family shortly before the incident.

"She just said she was deeply depressed, and we offered to come and visit and help her, but an hour after she hung up it happened. We had no idea she was this depressed."

Authorities originally were treating the case as a homicide, but upon further investigation the lack of evidence of a struggle pointed more toward a suicide.

Price's sudden death shocked those who knew and loved her, and leaves some pondering whether her suicide was directly influenced by the demise of the ABL.

Nacogdoches Police Sgt. Paul Peterson said he doesn't know if the ABL's cancellation has anything to do with her apparent suicide.

Just one of two professional women's basketball leagues in the United States, the ABL struggled to compete with its more successful counterpart, the WNBA (Women's National Basketball Association).

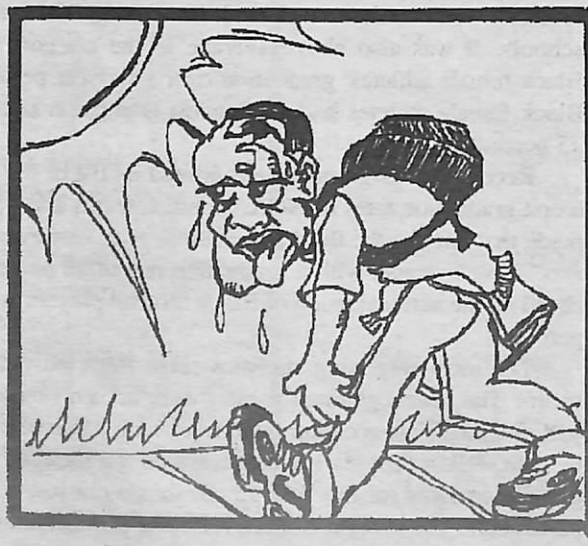
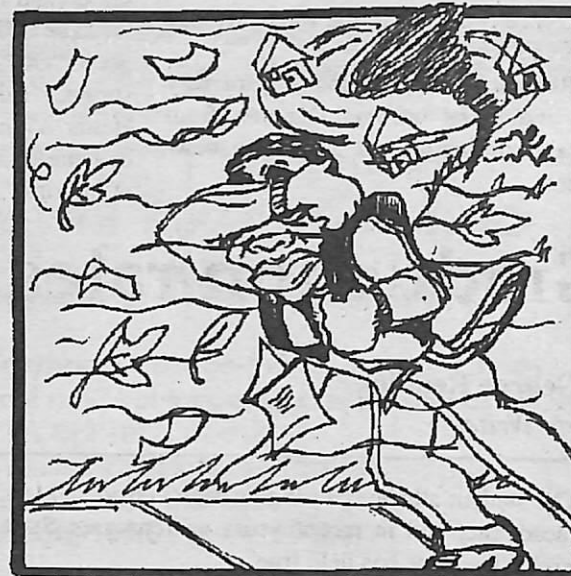
Its inability to secure enough investment and sponsorship dollars or a national television contract sealed the fate of the league and left many coaches, players and fans in disarray.

The demise of the ABL affected Nashville with the end of its women's basketball team, the Noise.

Price's case is just one of many negative conditions that have surrounded the ABL since it suspended operations. For instance, fans of the New England Blizzard purchased thousands of tickets for games at the Hartford Civic Center, only to be told no plan was in place to refund their money.

Pam Batalis, former ABL vice president of sales, asked for patience from those who purchased tickets.

Along with the confusion in Connecticut, many players are in limbo and wondering what to do next. For some, there will be the option of heading to the WNBA, where the salary on average is about \$50,000 lower than it was in the ABL. Others may opt for the big money by signing lucrative contracts with European teams. Whatever they decide, they'll do it with the knowledge that both Price and the ABL have run out of options. •





## Sports

# TSU Tennis teams swing into action

By Roxanne Johnson  
Sports Writer

Tennessee State University's men's tennis team will swing into action on Feb. 16 as they travel to the University of Memphis for their first game. The women's team will play their first game on March 2 at Cumberland University in Nashville.

Head coach Gerald Robinson said the tennis team has a positive attitude about the upcoming season. His objectives this year are to be competitive individually and as a team. However, Robinson says the team may have a tougher time with team competitions due to the loss of Jason Bradford, Edker McBurrows and Harold Florence, who all held one of the top four spots on the team. The men left in the middle of the year, so a few walk-ons were added to the team.

Last year the team did not have a winning season in the Ohio Valley Conference, although the team did win the Round Robin in the Alabama State tournament as well as in the Daytona Beach tournament in Florida. This year Robinson expects the team to hold their own in the conference even though the walk-ons may be inexperienced.

Robinson said he is looking for very good individual accomplishments from several returning players, as well as newcomers.

Mark Hickman, a senior from Chattanooga and one of the returning players, said, "I feel the team will be okay, but we have a lot of improving to do. We are coming along slowly, but we will get there. Individually, I think I should have a pretty good season."

Geoffery Jones, a senior from Detroit Mich. said, "I feel we have a pretty good team this year. We have some good new people. I worked hard this summer and in the off season and I have improved."

The girl's team also looks pretty good. "Our 1, 2 and 3 players look really strong," said returning player Autumn Hester, a junior from Racine, Wis. "I will be better than last year because I am free of injuries."

Shellee Brooks, a senior from Detroit Mich., said, "We are looking pretty good this year, the only problem is we're lacking one girl and one boy, but we are conditioning really hard."

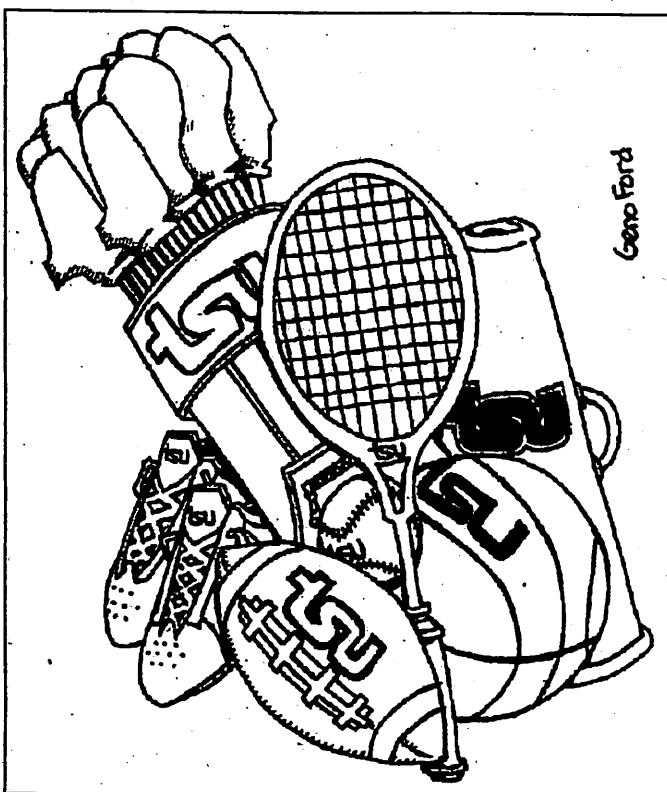
Brooks continued, saying, "I have been conditioning really hard and mentally because I am strong. I plan on claiming a few victories this year."

A l l

b r a w n

and no brains does not apply to the TSU tennis team. They have an overall grade point average of 3.0 and Robinson was very excited about the academic status of the team.

Dawn Gates who was the first woman in the history of TSU to ever win "All



OVC" academically and athletically, said, "I was excited to get the OVC. I pulled out a lot of tough matches."

Also look for newcomer freshmen Roxanne Brooks, Ramsey Covington, and Natasha Ewing, as well as sophomore Kwadjo Glenn to keep this young squad swinging into action, academically and athletically.

## Women's Tennis Schedule

- Mar. 2 Cumberland University Nashville
- Mar. 19-20 Alabama State Montgomery, Ala.
- Mar. 23 Belmont College (home)
- Mar. 24 Western Kentucky Bowling Green, Ky.
- Mar. 26 Morehead State (home)
- Apr. 6 U.T. Martin Martin, Tenn.
- Apr. 7 Western Kentucky (home)
- Apr. 13 Middle Tennessee (home)
- Apr. 15 Murray State (home)
- Apr. 17 Eastern Kentucky (home)
- Apr. 18 Austin Peay Clarksville, Tenn.
- Apr. 19 Tennessee Tech Cookeville, Tenn.
- Apr. 23-25 OVC Tournaments Nashville, Tenn.

## Graduation rates higher among current TSU athletes

By George Reddick  
Sports Writer

The student athlete has always been considered less than academic, and in recent years at Tennessee State University, the same has held true.

Nevertheless, student athlete graduation rates have been on the rise. Students have been graduating at a rate of 37 percent, whereas athletes have been graduating at a rate of 42 percent overall.

The numbers, in either case, are low for an institution of higher learning. According to the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the average student graduation rate is 56 percent and the athletic graduation rate is 57 percent. The data presented is based on the national Fall 1991 freshmen class of athletes (the most recent statistics the university had).

The student athletes tracked in this report enrolled as first-time freshmen, received athletic-related financial aid, and graduated from TSU within six years of initial enrollment.

The NCAA keeps track of graduation rates as part of their initiative to produce student athletes who meet high initial eligibility standards.

They track students over a six year period, but stu-

dent athletes that transfer and graduate elsewhere, count against their original institution as not graduating.

Richard Huckaba, assistant director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research, said, "It is important to realize that these rates do not always reflect the real story. If a student has to leave school because of family problems, or transfers outside of Tenn., among other things, that is not reflected in the report."

Overall, TSU is above average in its graduation rate of Black male athletes and students among Division I schools. It was also above average in the category of Black female athletes' graduation over a six year period. Black female athletes had the highest graduation rate at 75 percent.

Recently, *Emerge* magazine printed its list of the 50 worst graduation rates of NCAA football teams and TSU made that list for the third consecutive year. However, it was above average, with a graduation rate of 50 percent, based on the national mean of Black football players at 38 percent.

The most surprising statistics came from individual sports. The lowest graduation rates were in men's basketball and men's cross country and track with a rate of zero percent. TSU's four class average, which is a mean of the graduation rates for the '88-'92 freshmen classes, is 20 percent and 100 percent respectively. The average nationally is 53 percent for basketball.

The highest graduation rates for athletes came from the women. Women's cross country/ track and basketball lead the way with graduation rates of 100 percent and 67 percent, respectively. The national average is 67 percent.

Former athletic director Vivian Fuller felt that TSU could improve its athletes overall graduation rates. "We are recruiting academically stronger athletes," she said.

The 1994-1998 freshman classes of student athletes were strong academically. Among the men, the mean grade point average out of high school was 2.71. They averaged 19 on the ACT and 878 on the SAT. The GPA among women was 3.0 and they averaged 18.5 on the ACT and 965 on the SAT.

Extensive academic support programs have been put into place to make sure our graduation rate does improve according to Jim Burkrigg, one of TSU's athletic advisors. "As of Jan. 17, we started evening study sessions, tutors in problem subject areas, and promotion of the use of the computer labs and the LRC," he said. "We are still in the research and discovery phase of creating a better system for our athletes."

As TSU attempts to uphold its "Commitment To Excellence," the athletic department is striving to help our athletes become more proficient students.



## Men's Tennis Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location
Feb. 16	University of Memphis	Memphis, Tenn.
Feb. 25	Belmont University	(home)
Feb. 27	Western Kentucky	(home)
March 2	Cumberland University	(home)
Mar. 19-20	Alabama State	Normal, Alabama
Mar. 24	Western Kentucky	Bowling Green, Ky.
Mar. 26	Morehead State	(home)
Apr. 6	U.T. Martin	Martin, Tenn.
Apr. 13	Middle Tennessee	(home)
Apr. 19	Eastern Kentucky	(home)
Apr. 18	Austin Peay	Clarksville, Tenn.
Apr. 19	Tennessee Tech	Cookeville, Tenn.
Apr. 20	Belmont University	(home)
Apr. 23-25	OVC Tournaments	Nashville, Tenn.

## Up On Deck

### What happened to the student athlete?

By George Reddick  
Sports Writer

It was not long ago, only about 40 years in fact, African Americans were breaking into Major League baseball. Presently, we dominate most major sports in the United States. There was a time that African Americans valued a quality education above all, but those days seem to have become a thing of the past.

African Americans have always sought out the best for themselves to attain success. Yet, it seems that over the last 40 years they have forgotten that education should be valued more than an athletic contract.

The NCAA defines the student athlete as "one who engages in sports while advancing academically". Sports are not the student athlete's main goal. It is, first and foremost, to be a student.

College has always been a part of the path to getting a contract with the NBA, NFL, MLB, and the NHL. The sad part is that college is no longer being used to help the player become better educated. College is being used by its athletes as a place to workout and gain notoriety. It is being used as a place to acquire skills on their respective fields or courts.

College, at one time, was an institution that fostered ideas, helped its stu-

dents develop into culturally adapted individuals, and insured, above all else, jobs for the future.

Today an education is not an accessory, it is a necessity. A college education is in demand. A high school diploma can barely get you a job at McDonald's in this day and age and in several years a bachelor's degree will be equivalent to a high school diploma. Why are athletes not obtaining this beloved knowledge that will help them succeed if they can not elevate their ability to a professional level or if they become disabled?

On average, between 20 percent to 30 percent of athletes, compared to 50 percent to 60 percent of regular students, will graduate from college.

There are student athletes that are making the best of their college education. They major in business, engineering, computer science, biology, journalism, and anything else you can imagine. Many have faced the reality that everyone cannot be a star. They are prepared for the uncertain future that many student athletes face. African American youth are 53 percent of the African American population. They have a variety of dreams, goals and ambitions. Many want to be the next Michael Jordan or Deion Sanders. Only a handful of them will ever be in a position to get picked to play professionally. By attending college and excelling scholastically, as well as athletically, African American student athletes will be prepared for the next millennium. •

## Golf team tees off new season

By Brian Fraizer  
Sports Writer

The Tiger golf team will kick off their spring season competing in the Pizza Hut Collegiate Golf Tournament, hosted by Jackson State University, Feb. 21-22.

Even though the team is young and inexperienced, they have big expectations. They are led by team statistic leader, Kristopher Plahn, who is a freshman with a 73.4 stroke average. Also contributing to the team scores are: senior Kevin Gunter, juniors Robert Hunt, Per Nilsson, Jamie Milner, and sophomores Fredrik Thruesson and Andre Pillow.

Plahn, who is a good student on and off the course, has been a great help this year. His dedication and determination, has motivated the team to excel, according

to Coach Catana Starks. She feels that his work ethics will help lead TSU to the best season ever.

The squad only has three returning players and they have good focus, desire to win, determination, and good attitudes. These are strengths that will pay off in upcoming tournaments. Lack of experience and putting are the only weaknesses for the team. Once they are overcome, the team will become even more competitive.

They are looking forward to playing in the National Minority College Golf Championship, to be played at the PGA Reserves in Port St. Lucie, Florida. Coach Starks asked the members of the TSU community to come out to the Ohio Valley Conference championship which will be held April 19-21 at the Springhouse golf course and support the team. •

## Picks of the Pack

February 11-14

### NBA

Chicago vs. New York  
Orlando vs. Milwaukee

### NCAA

North Carolina vs. Maryland  
Florida State vs. Clemson

Win/Loss record



Davinna  
Fuller

Chicago  
Orlando

North Carolina  
Clemson

The Aleteer  
13-7



Alexia  
Bell

Chicago  
Orlando

North Carolina  
Clemson

Freshmen  
20-10



Gerie  
Price

Chicago  
Orlando

North Carolina  
Florida State

Sophomores  
17-13



Taunisha  
Murph

New York  
Orlando

North Carolina  
Clemson

Juniors  
17-13



Justin  
McClellan

New York  
Milwaukee

Maryland  
Florida State

Seniors  
18-11



John  
Cade

New York  
Orlando

North Carolina  
Clemson

Faculty/Staff  
17-3





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